GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1418
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF MINERAL WATER
Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules under which contract for supply of mineral water at railway stations and in trains is awarded alongwith the term for which it is awarded;

(b) whether testing of such mineral water is done regularly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Railways have received any complaints regarding supply of contaminated mineral water during the last two years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) : 'Rail Neer' produced and supplied by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), is the exclusive brand of packaged drinking water procured and sold by the departmental units and non-departmental private catering licensees on the premises of Indian Railways including trains. Private licensees are free to procure supply from available BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) approved brands of packaged drinking water as notified by BIS, where 'Rail Neer' is not available.

(b) : Regular checks are conducted by collecting samples of packaged drinking water.

(c) : Does not arise.

(d) & (e): 44 complaints of unsatisfactory quality of packaged drinking water have been reported during the last two years. Action like, warning, imposition of fine etc. have been taken on the substantiated cases.